

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Laura Ingalls Wilder was born in 1867 near Pepin in Northwestern Wisconsin. She spent many of her early years in the 'Big Woods' of Wisconsin and attended Barry Corner School. When Laura was 15, she earned her teaching certificate. She was hired to teach at the Bouchie School and boarded with the Bouchie family. There she met Almanzo Wilder and they married in August of 1885.

Over the next several years, the Wilders lived in South Dakota, Minnesota, and Florida before finally settling on a farm in Missouri. In the late 1890's Laura began to write for the *Missouri Ruralist* and other magazines. In 1930, she wrote her autobiography, entitled *Pioneer Girl*. This first draft of her autobiography was not published until she rewrote portions and changed the name to *Little House in the Big Woods*. *Little House in the Big Woods* was a huge success and as fans begged for more stories, Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote what would become known as the *Little House Books*, which depicted her life on the frontier. Laura Ingalls Wilder died at the age of 90 on February 10, 1957.

(Taken from *Laura Ingalls Wilder, Frontier Girl* website at webpages.marshall.edu/~irby1/laura)